

## Year 1

- **Intake meeting with Program Director, student, and supervisor(s) (no later than Nov 15)**
- Student applies for awards, RA positions, and TA positions (*every year*)
- Complete 4 courses (2.0 FCE); additional elective courses may also be taken
- **Establish supervisory committee (no later than Dec 15)**
- Have at least one full committee meeting (no later than March 31)
- **Complete Comprehensive Examination (submitted no later than June 15)**
- Begin dissertation and proposal work (e.g., literature review, developing objectives/research questions)

## Year 2

- Complete student activity report (October/November, year two and *each subsequent year*)
- Complete remaining coursework (1.5FCE)
- **Complete proposal defense (no later than June 30)**
- Submit necessary ethics applications and/or amendments
- Begin intensive dissertation work
- Have at least two full committee meetings.

## Year 3

- Continued intensive dissertation work (e.g., data collection, analysis, and writing).
- Have at least two full committee meetings.

## Year 4

- Consider post-PhD plans; student applies for awards and positions
- Complete dissertation writing (e.g., writing and revisions)
- *Complete Departmental Oral Defense (can be waived)*
- **Complete Final Oral Examination (FOE) (no later than Aug 30)**
- Submit final revisions to dissertation (as required; no later than September 15)
- Celebrate the completion of your doctorate!

### Links to Key Resources:

- [DLSPH Academic Policies and Forms](#) (including updated funding policy; Student-Supervisor Conversation Checklist; PhD Supervisory Committee Composition Form; PhD Supervisory Committee Meeting Report)
- [SGS Supervision Guidelines](#)
- [DLSPH Student Awards & Funding Opportunities](#)
- [DLSPH OEH PhD Degree Requirements](#)
- [DLSPH Departmental Defense guidelines](#)
- [DLSPH Final Oral Examination guidelines](#)